

**To:** Brown, Matthew[MBrown@ap.org]  
**Cc:** Daguillard, Robert[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov]; Valentine, Julia[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov]; Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Zito, Kelly[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV]; Press[Press@epa.gov]  
**From:** Christie StClair  
**Sent:** Wed 8/12/2015 6:30:38 PM  
**Subject:** Re: ?s from Associated Press

Hi Matthew,

Are you able to join the administrator's presser today?

Christie

**Christie St. Clair**

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

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On Aug 12, 2015, at 12:17 PM, "Brown, Matthew" <MBrown@ap.org> wrote:

Greetings-Resending questions below in hopes of getting some answers today. Story is going out this afternoon and it would be great to get the EPA's perspective on these matters. Alternative is to say that the agency wouldn't respond Wednesday to questions from The AP about long-term risks posed by the spill.

Thanks for any help.

Matt Brown

**From:** Brown, Matthew  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:47 AM  
**To:** 'Daguillard, Robert'; 'Valentine, Julia'; 'Mylott, Richard'; '[smith.paula@epa.gov](mailto:smith.paula@epa.gov)'; '[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)'; '[zito.kelly@epa.gov](mailto:zito.kelly@epa.gov)'; '[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)'  
**Subject:** ?s from Associated Press

Thanks Robert-

More detailed questions:

Today we're going to be focused on long-term issues raised by the spill, including contaminated sediments left behind when the plume passes through.

Here are some questions we're going to address, and are hoping the EPA can provide answers:

--I understand from yesterday's call that the EPA will be monitoring sediments. Has this already begun? Does the EPA have any gauge yet on extent of contamination on river bottoms, etc, in the wake of the plume?

--How likely are the contaminants to re-mobilize? How long will this remain a potential problem?

--Mines have been leaking contamination into some of these rivers for many years; will the Gold King spill appreciably increase the contamination load in the sediments?

--If the contaminants do re-mobilize, what are the chances that they will pose enough of a threat to prompt more drinking water advisories, closing of rivers, etc?

--Are there any plans to try to remove contamination from sediment? Is that even possible?

--Is plume expected to reach Lake Powell? When?

Regarding contaminant levels seen so far, has the EPA received any additional data since samples collected on Aug 5 and Aug 6 and Aug 7 that are in this table:

[http://www.epaosc.org/sites/11082/files/PreliminaryData\\_08092015.pdf](http://www.epaosc.org/sites/11082/files/PreliminaryData_08092015.pdf)

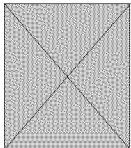
<http://epaosc.org/sites/11082/files/Data%20Update%2008082015.pdf>

Are there any subsequent sampling results? If not, when do you expect to receive them?

Also, for analytes listed in the table (including arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, iron, barium, etc) can you please provide corresponding EPA water quality criteria?

Thanks for your time and all help.

Matt Brown



**Matthew Brown**

Associated Press Correspondent

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**From:** Daguillard, Robert [<mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>] **Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:59 AM  
**To:** Brown, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: 2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Durango, CO

Hullo Matt,

I've forwarded your questions to the folks in Colorado. Thanks, R.

**From:** Brown, Matthew [<mailto:MBrown@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:53 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert; Press  
**Subject:** RE: 2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Durango, CO

Hi Robert, Christie and EPA press team-

Will the administrator be visiting the mine site?

We'd like to position a photographer there if so. Please let me know.

Also, will be following up shortly with add'l questions for today's story, which is going to focus on long-term prospects for contamination to be re-mobilized during high waters and also exploring potential (or not) for removing contamination from river system.

Thanks much-

Matt Brown

**From:** Daguillard, Robert [<mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:30 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Subject:** 2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Durango, CO

**Contact:**

**Christie St. Clair,** [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)

**For Immediate Release**

**Aug. 12, 2015**

**2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Durango, CO**

**DURANGO, CO** - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy will visit Durango, CO today to inspect response efforts relating to the release of waste water from Gold King mine, and meet with state, local and tribal officials and community members. McCarthy will hold a media availability in Durango for credentialed news media only about the response. Tomorrow, Administrator McCarthy will visit the response efforts in Farmington, NM. More details about the visit will be released as they become available.

**WHEN:** 2:00 PM MTN

**WHO:** EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy

**WHAT:** Administrator McCarthy media availability on the unified response to the Gold King Mine incident.

**WHERE:** Outside Gold King Mine Unified Command Center

2500 Main. Ave.  
Durango, CO 81301

**NOTE:** The media availability in Durango will take the place of today's media conference call.

# #

Robert Daguiard

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